



Atty. Dkt. No. TREND-00101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Robert R. HUNTER

Confirmation No.: 8982

Application No: 10/615,572

Examiner: Carol S. W. TSAI

Filing Date: July 8, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2857

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR READING AND CONTROLLING UTILITY
CONSUMPTION

* * *

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

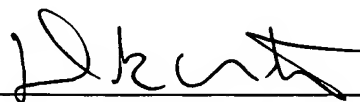
Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56(a), 1.97(c)(1) and 1.97(e)(2), Applicant hereby cites the following document(s) listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08 along with any required copies of listed document(s). In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(h) the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

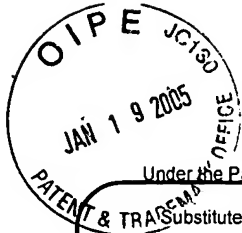
No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1610.

Respectfully submitted,
Law Offices of Derek J. Westberg

By 
Derek J. Westberg
Reg. No. 40,872

Jan. 14, 2005
Date



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Application Number	10/615,572
Filing Date	July 8, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert R. HUNTER
Art Unit	2857
Examiner Name	Carol S. W. TSAI
Attorney Docket Number	TREND-00101

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,574,104-B2	06-03-2003	Patel et al.	
		US-			
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Application Number	10/615572
Filing Date	08 June 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert R. Hunter
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	TREND-00101

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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
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		US- 4,390,876 A	06-28-1983	Bjorklund	
		US- 4,783,623 A	11-08-1988	Edwards et al	
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		US- 4,758,836	07-19-1988	Scuilli	
		US- 5,602,744	02-11-1997	Meek et al	
		US- 5,669,276	12-16-1997	Roos	
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